



# IDE NEWSLETTER



**Brigade Combat Team**  
Project Management Office

## SPOTLIGHT – COMING SOON: A NEW LOOK TO THE BCT IDE WEBSITE

Both BCT IDE Public and Portal Websites have been re-designed to remain in compliance with new directives regarding federal web sites. New features will include additional content, improved navigation, faster access, and improved presentation. All major functions and content of the original BCT web site will be carried over to the new websites. This new site will include more Stryker vehicle pictures, better content organization and new page layouts. The navigation (while altered) will be more accessible, convenient and faster to use. This new site also offers STANDARD and ENHANCED versions to provide better access capabilities regardless of connection speed. The enhanced version integrates pictures, sound, and video together to create an impressive introduction to the STRYKER family of vehicles.

This new site will replace the old site so you will not need to learn a new URL address. Our efforts to bring this new site on-line are significantly ahead of schedule and we anticipate that this new site will be available before 30 Mar 04.

## REMOTE ACCESS OF THE IFS DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The iFS Document Management System is the repository for unclassified Stryker program information. System users can access the stored documents via the internet through a web browser. This solution provides the capability to access Stryker program information from home, hotels, and other remote sites. We encourage you to try accessing the IDE from home to validate its usefulness in satisfying your specific remote documentation needs.

iFS: <https://bctapps.army.mil/ifs/files/ifs/webui/jsps/login.jsp>




**BCT/EDS**



This BCT IDE Newsletter is a joint production effort, edited by BCT with support from EDS.

## CHECK OUT YOUR BCT IDE PROFILE

The next time you access the File Storage area of the BCT IDE please access your profile. You can obtain your profile by selecting the link that is listed on top of the left panel. It will have your user id and the symbol  **Your User ID**. This will result in your profile being displayed in the left panel.

It is important for you to understand your profile since it describes the iFS security rules that are applied when accessing/creating files and folders. Your profile lists your membership in various groups. Being a member of a group provides you permission to access and modify the associated files and folders. If you need access to other groups, talk to the leader of that group to gain the appropriate read and write permissions. The default ACL will list the default security access that is applied to documents and folders you add to the system. If you desire a different ACL to be applied, you must perform additional steps to modify the ACL when creating folders or adding documents. You can also contact the help desk to set your default ACL to a different value.

Additionally, the profile email address is used to send you system status messages, announcements about training classes, and other important information about new IDE capabilities. Your email address is used by the help desk respond to change requests. For these reasons, it is important that your email address is kept current. *(continued on next page)*





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Finally, your profile allows you to change your password. We encourage you to change your password a least once a month. If you forget your password you can request a password reset from the BCT IDE Help Desk.



## COL OGG – PM OF THE YEAR

Ft. Belvoir, VA — The Honorable Claude M. Bolton Jr., the Army Acquisition Executive and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, and Lt. Gen. John S. Caldwell Jr., Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, presented the Project & Product Manager of the Year Award at the 2003 Army Acquisition Corps Ball October 5th at the Grand Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA.

The **Project Manager of the Year Award for Colonel/GS-15 level** was presented to Colonel David Ogg from the Interim Brigade Combat Team, Program Executive Office Ground Combat Systems. The Interim Brigade Combat Team plans, manages and directs the development, testing, production, fielding and sustainment of a full range of systems, including 10 variants of the **Stryker Family of Vehicles**. Despite the complexity and requirement to meet tighter deadlines than in other more traditional Army Acquisition programs, Colonel Ogg's program exceeded a **90 percent Operational Readiness Rate**, delivering products on time and meeting or exceeding Soldier requirements. Extracted from source article at <http://asc.army.mil/>

## DETROIT ARSENAL VS. EXTERNAL LOCATIONS

One of the primary goals of moving the IDE into the Detroit Arsenal complex in April of 2003 was to improve the performance of IDE transactions for the BCT users that work within the Arsenal. By improve performance, we mean the increase in speed that files can be uploaded and/or downloaded from the IDE. This improved response time for users located at the Detroit Arsenal is significant compared to users residing at other locations. The decreased response time for external users is due to network and firewall issues that can limit the transfer rate of information for the IDE servers located at the Detroit Arsenal. In addition, users from external locations may

have infrastructure issues that may negatively impact response time.

Another added benefit to those users that reside at the Arsenal is their ability to drag and drop files and folders from their desktop to the IDE file storage system. This capability is not available for users located outside the Detroit Arsenal due to government security restrictions. This forces external users to upload and download files one at a time when using the IDE File Storage system.

## IDE HELP DESK CALL OF THE MONTH

This following problem has occurred more than once. A user located outside of the Detroit Arsenal has timed out while trying to upload a large file into the BCT IDE. The problem is often caused by the delays normally found in three areas, the internet, the NIPRnet (the military's internal network), the remote users infrastructure, and finally the LAN infrastructure within the Detroit Arsenal.

A common approach to solve this problem is to use File Transfer Protocol (FTP) to move files from one location to another. FTP is designed for transporting large documents. The problem with using this solution is that the security at the Detroit Arsenal will not allow outside users to use FTP to deposit files within the BCT IDE.

The implementation can be done two ways. The first approach is for a user within the Detroit Arsenal to pull a document from the user's site. The second approach is for the user to contact the BCT IDE Help Desk to arrange for a plan to FTP documents to a location outside of the Arsenal and request for the BCT IDE Help Desk store the document in the BCT IDE. The second approach is preferred since the documents can be accessed from any site that has an internet connection and provides robust security controls. The second approach has been used many times and allows remote users to download documents into an EDS secure site.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

Starting with this current issue, the BCT IDE Newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis.

## NEED HELP?

Any time you need IDE assistance, or have any questions, please contact: **PM-BCT IDE Help Desk**  
Phone: 248-265-6020  
E-mail: [pm-bctidehelpdesk@eds.com](mailto:pm-bctidehelpdesk@eds.com)

